



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

## JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Workshop  
Meeting Location: Superintendent's Conference Room  
Meeting Date: **Thursday, October 15, 2009**  
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

### MEETING # 74

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** A workshop meeting of the Horne Street School Addition & Renovations Joint Building Committee was called to order on Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. at the Superintendent's office in the conference room.

**B. ROLL CALL:** Present were, Catherine Cheney, Karen Weston, Carolyn Mebert, Mark Geuther and Ray Bardwell. Also present were Laurie Verville, Business Administrator, John Urdi, Eric Steltzer, Community Member, David Goldsmith, Horne Street School-Teacher, and Michael Bliss, Clerk of the Works. The Presenter for the workshop was, Edward Murdough, State of NH -Dept. of Building Aid Program Administrator. Absent were Doris Grady and John O'Connor, Superintendent

#### Horne Street Elementary School:

Mr. Murdough began the workshop discussion by circulating a hard copy of a power point presentation titled, "New Hampshire High Performance Schools Program":

Slide #1: A High Performance School Building is (As defined by the Sustainable Building Industry Council):

- Healthy & productive for student & staff
- Cost effective to operate & maintain
- Sustainable

Slide #2: High Performance is not:

- A new idea
- Only about saving energy
- Strange or exotic
- Difficult to achieve
- Too expensive
- Too risky
- The latest fad
- A "Taj Mahal"

Slide #3: RSA 198:15-b defines the program as:

- Additional 3% in State School Building Aide
- Must meet NE-CHPS
- Only \$100K awarded per year
- Competitive

Slide #4: Criteria to meet CHPS is:

- Currently NE-CHPS version 1.1, January 2007
- No NH addendum
- 39 required items
- 30 of 80 elective points necessary



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- Must earn minimum number of elective points in all categories except renewable energy

*Note: \$100,000. per year has been appropriated in the State Budget for the CHPS program. Award is based solely upon the project's principal payment. Funds are awarded at the completion and inspection of the project.*

### Slide #5: Categories to Review for Qualifying:

- Policy & operations
- Indoor environmental quality
- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Water efficiency
- Materials
- Site selection
- Innovation

### Slide #6: The NH Process Involves the following:

- School District submits CHPS score sheet listing intended/expected points to be earned prior to start of construction
- NH Dept. of Education reviews construction documents for anticipated points
- School District submits final CHPS score sheet with supporting documentation upon completion of construction
- NH Dept. of Education conducts site visit to verify points earned
- All projects completed in calendar year compete for funding

### Slide #7: Recently Completed Projects:

- Merrimack Valley High School
- Profile Middle/High School
- Laconia Middle School

### Slide #8: Ongoing Projects in New Hampshire:

- Mason Elementary School
- Keene TNT School
- Keene Middle School
- Portsmouth Middle School
- Kingswood High School

### Slide #9: Lessons Learned from the CHPS Program:

- Anyone can do it
- School board must be committed to building a better school – It costs more
- Start out planning to earn more than the minimum number of points
- Coordinate with Dept. of Ed. early and often – Ask questions, do not assume
- Variances/exceptions/waivers will be very limited
- Design team meet with Dept. of Ed. early in design phase
- Mechanical engineer is key to design
- It's not just about saving energy
- Construction team meet with Dept. of Ed. early in construction phase



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- Contractor's responsibilities must be clearly written in contract and clearly understood
- Sub-contractors need to understand their responsibilities
- Watch change orders carefully
- Document as you go
- Follow the protocol closely
- Take lots of pictures
- Discuss CHPS points during weekly project meetings
- School board and administration must do their part

Mr. Murdough circulated a Form A24HP that scores by each standard. There are 39 with 30 out of 80 that are required. A score with a cross hatch defines a requirement. The portion of School Board policies are considered the most challenging to achieve. We are on the late track with the State to receive an A24HP and Dennis Mires should submit it. Upon completion and points rosters has been done, the State goes through a verification process before the additional 3% is granted. The responsibility lies with the Dennis Mires firm.

Merrimack Valley has been awarded the CHPS designation. Two other districts have yet to do their verifications/documentations. Mr. Murdough stated we need to be committed to building a better building.

Doug Wade, hired by Dennis Mires, the Architects, is the mechanical engineer for the project. It's important for the construction guys to be well versed and how to participate in a CHPS program and the documentation it involves. Watch the change orders and be certain they meet the CHPS specs. CHPS should be part of the weekly job site meetings. Mr. McBey inquired about commissioning. It's a process to be certain that the building and its components function as intended and built. It's a requirement.

There is a debate on commissioning and whether it should be done by a third party. The State of NH is flexible; ideally another set of eyes or someone from within the design firm or another firm to evaluate.

Other Schools currently pursuing the CHPS Program:

- Merrimack – Renovation
- Profile – Tear down and re-build
- Laconia – Tear down and re-build

The CHPS process can be done smoother than originally expected on renovated school buildings. CHPS must be the entire building. Mr. Mires presented a status report on how/what we have accomplished so far for CHPS. We need to learn what sum of the reasonable solutions to meeting the CHPS goal/points. Items such as biofuels, Coast Public transportation would be considered for acquiring additional points towards CHPS certification.

We need to be certain to include electrical standards in the kitchen. A state statute was passed last year that minimizes light pollution in the State of NH. The Committee will need to consider light pollution. We also need to use the building as a teaching tool – using high performance as a model for student learning. How the building was constructed and post education.

Mr. Bardwell asked about pressure testing the building. John Urdi/Dennis Mires responded that you do it often.



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The Committee made general comments that we need to know how much more will be invested to get a CHPs certified building and when is the payback achieved.

**C. Schedule next JBC Meeting:** The next JBC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 22 , 2009 at 5:30 p.m. at the Superintendent's office conference room.

**D. Adjournment:** Karen Weston moved, An oral **VOTE PASSED: 6/0**

Respectfully submitted,

*Catherine Cheney/pab*

Catherine Cheney, Joint Building Committee Chair  
Joint Building Committee